



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Superintendents and School Principals

**FROM:** Gary Wallyn, Director  
Office of School Accreditation and Awards

**DATE:** May 8, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Indiana School Accreditation Status

On May 6, 2009, the Indiana State Board of Education approved the accreditation status for 1968 Indiana public and non-public schools. This year marks the culmination of a three year process of initially placing all applicable Indiana schools into an accreditation status using the school improvement and performance categories established in IC 20-31-8 (Public Law 221-1999).

Under 511 IAC 6.1-1-4, a school must meet the following accreditation requirements to be accorded full accreditation status:

- (1) Compliance with the following legal standards:
  - (A) Health and safety requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-2.
  - (B) Minimum time requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-3.
  - (C) Staff-student ratio requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-4.
  - (D) Curriculum offering requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-5 and 511 IAC 6.1-5.1.
  - (E) Instructional staff requirements listed under 511 IAC 6.1-6.
  - (F) ISTEP participation requirements in accordance with IC 20-32-5, IC 20-32-8, and 511 IAC 5-2.
  - (G) Mandatory annual assessment requirements in accordance with 511 IAC 6.2-6.
  - (H) Accurate and timely submission of all reports required of schools.
  - (I) Production of an annual performance report that meets the requirements of IC 20-20-8 and in the case of a:
    - (i) public school, is published in accordance with IC 20-20-8-3; or
    - (ii) nonpublic school, is disseminated to school constituents.
  - (J) Strategic and continuous school improvement and achievement planning requirements under IC 20-31-5 and 511 IAC 6.2-3.
- (2) Assignment to one (1) of the following categories of school improvement and performance under 511 IAC 6.2-6-4:
  - (A) Exemplary.
  - (B) Commendable.
  - (C) Academic progress.

A school receives Provisional Accreditation status if the school meets the legal standards for accreditation but the school is: (1) placed in the “Academic Watch” category of school improvement and performance; or (2) in the first or second year after initial placement in the “Academic Probation” category of school improvement and performance. If a school does not comply with legal standards, the State Board notes those instances where provisional accreditation status or probationary accreditation status is accorded for a reason other than school performance (Provisional – Legal Standards Only). A school that comes into compliance may be reclassified automatically to full accreditation.

A school receives probationary accreditation status if the school remains in the “Academic Probation” category of school improvement and performance in a third subsequent year after initial placement (fourth consecutive year). State accountability interventions also occur under IC 20-31-9, including student transfer options under 511 IAC 1-6-3(4).

School corporation responsibilities and consequences are:

**IC 20-31-4-13 - Probationary status; duty of governing body of school corporation**

Sec. 13. If a school is assigned probationary accreditation status, the governing body of the school corporation shall:

- (1) develop a plan, within one (1) year after the school is assigned probationary status, to raise the school's level of accreditation; and
- (2) raise the school's level of accreditation within three (3) years after the school is assigned probationary status.

**IC 20-31-4-14 - Probationary status; failure to make progress**

Sec. 14. (a) If a school having probationary status:

- (1) fails to make progress; or
- (2) at the end of three (3) years has not achieved full accreditation status; the state board shall assign probationary accreditation status to the school corporation in which the school is located.

(b) A school corporation on probationary accreditation status shall direct its efforts toward raising the level of accreditation of each of its schools that are on probationary accreditation status to full accreditation status within one (1) year after the school corporation is assigned probationary accreditation status.

**IC 20-31-4-15 - Probationary status; recommendations to general assembly**

Sec. 15. If a school corporation on probationary accreditation status does not raise the level of accreditation of each of its schools that are on probationary accreditation status to full accreditation status within one (1) year after the school corporation was assigned probationary accreditation status, the department shall submit to the general assembly recommendations concerning the operation and administration of the school corporation and the schools within that school corporation.

[Click here](#) for a complete list of accreditation status for public schools and nonpublic schools. This list does not include accredited charter or freeway schools. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of School Accreditation and Awards at 800-894-4044 or 317-232-9060.

## **School Accreditation Summary Sheet**

The following is a summary of the school accreditation recommendations:

### **Public Schools - 1804**

#### **Full Accreditation Status – 1040 (Total)**

- **813 - Improved to or maintained Full Accreditation Status**
- **229 - Category Alert List** – (Schools with "Full Accreditation Status" whose 2008-09 category placement changed to "Watch" or "Probation". Schools are given one year to move out of "Watch" or "Probation" or be placed in "Provisional Accreditation Status" in 2009-2010.)

#### **Provisional Accreditation Status – 560 (Total)**

- **543 - Declined to or remained in Provisional Accreditation Status**
- **17 - Warning List** – (Schools placed in the third consecutive year of "Academic Probation". Schools are given one year to move out of "Academic Probation" or be placed in "Probationary Accreditation Status" in 2009-2010.)

#### **Provisional Accreditation Status, Legal Standards Only – 174 (Total)**

#### **Probationary Accreditation Status – 28 (Total)**

**Accredited Programs – 68** (Programs under the jurisdiction of a public school corporation that are not assigned an accountability category)

### **Non-Public Schools - 164**

#### **Full Accreditation Status – 148 (Total)**

- **140 - Improved to or maintained Full Accreditation Status**
- **8 - Category Alert List** – (Schools with "Full Accreditation Status" whose 2008-09 category placement has changed to "Watch" or "Probation". Schools have one year to move out of "Watch" or "Probation" or be placed in "Provisional Accreditation Status" in 2009-2010.)

#### **Provisional Accreditation Status – 1**

#### **Provisional Accreditation Status, Legal Standards Only – 15**

#### **Probationary Accreditation Status – 0**